



Further Amendment After Final Action Submitted in a Request for Continued Examination

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: US Patent Application 09/261,080
Filed March 2, 1999
Applicant Schuster
Examiner Rodney Fuller
Art Unit 2851
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Attorney Docket (Z) 98005 P US

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**Further Amendment After Final Action Submitted in a Request for Continued
Examination**

Dear Examiner Fuller:

This Further Amendment After Final Action is submitted in a Request for Continued Examination, and responds to the Examiner's Advisory Action of August 26, 2002 and the telephone discussion with the Examiner of November 12, 2002.

The changes made to the claims in this Request for Continued Examination amend the claims previously submitted in the Amendment after Final Action submitted on July 16, 2002. A clean set of the claims, as amended in this Request for Continued Examination is included herewith. The **"Version with Markings to show Changes Made"** included as an addendum to this submission shows the changes made to the Amendment after Final Action claims.

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Claim 1: A reticle with support material of transparent, optically uniaxial crystal, in which the principal axis of said crystal is substantially perpendicular to the surface of said reticle.

Claim 2: A reticle based on MgF_2 as support material, in which the principal axis of said MgF_2 is oriented substantially perpendicular to the surface of said reticle.

Claim 4: The reticle according to claim 1, further comprising a cooling device.

Claim 5: The reticle according to claim 4, in which said cooling device has a flowing fluid.

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